

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170745
ORIGIN EA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 0746
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 170745

FOR ASST SECY HOLBROOKE, FRED BROWN, JACK CANNON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, VM

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON US-VN RELATIONS

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED THIS MORNING. FIRST
Q AND A CAME UP AT TODAY'S (7/6) NOON BRIEFING:

Q. THE JAPANESE PRESS REPORTS THAT SRV VICE FOREIGN
MINISTER PHAN HIEN HAS TOLD THE JAPANESE THAT THE WAY FOR
NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM COULD BE OPEN IF BOTH SIDES
AGREED THAT NORMALIZED TIES WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE
STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF ASIA. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT
ON THIS?

A. NO, I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE PRESS REPORTS TO WHICH YOU
REFER. OUR POLICY WITH REGARD TO NORMALIZATION OF RELA-
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TIONS WITH VI:TNAM IS CLEAR. AS WE HAVE STATED AT EACH OF
THE THREE ROUNDS OF TALKS WITH THE VIETNAMESE IN PARIS
LAST YEAR, WE ARE PREPARED TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS AT THE
DIPLOMATIC LEVEL AND TO EXCHANGE EMBASSIES AND AMBASSADORS.
ONCE EMBASSIES ARE IN PLACE, WE WOULD LIFT THE TRADE
EMBARGO.

Q. THE SAME PRESS ARTICLES ALSO REPORT THAT AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD HAS TOLD FOREIGN MINISTER SONADA THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD FACE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE CONGRESS IF IT MOVED TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD?

A. NO, AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, I HAVE NO COMMENT FOR YOU ON THESE PRESS REPORTS. VANCE

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NNN

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